

RESPIRATORY FUNCTION IN DISEASE—An Introduction to the Integrated Study of the Lung—David V. Bates, M.D. (Cantab.), M.R.C.P. (London), Associate Professor of Medicine, McGill University; Director, Respiratory Division, Joint Cardiorespiratory Service, Royal Victoria Hospital and Montreal Children's Hospital; and Ronald V. Christie, M.D. (Edinburgh), M.Sc. (McGill), D.Sc. (London), Sc.D. (Dublin), F.A.C.P., F.R.C.P. (London), F.R.C.P.(C), Professor and Chairman of the Department of Medicine, McGill University; Physician-in-Chief, Royal Victoria Hospital. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London, 1964. 566 pages, \$15.50.

The simple title of this book is misleading. Actually, this is a 475 page text complete with a carefully worked subject index and reference index. It is inclusive of almost everything pertaining to pulmonary function in both the normal and in disease. It includes basic descriptions of methods of obtaining pulmonary function measurements. It lucidly describes what information can be obtained and its clinical value. That portion of the book that refers to different diseases is superb. The different entities are succinctly described from the pathological, physiological, and radiological points of view. Illustrative case reports are used and these are well illustrated with radiographs and graphs as most appropriate.

This reviewer feels that this book should be in every medical library and also in the personal possession of every physician who deals in any significant amount of pulmonary disease.

BEATTY H. RAMSAY, M.D.

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BURNS—A Symposium—Compiled and edited by Leon Goldman, M.D., Associate Dean, School of Medicine and Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, and Richard E. Gardner, M.D., Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco, Calif. Charles C Thomas, Springfield, Ill., 1965. 191 pages, \$7.75.

This book is a compilation of articles and discussions from a symposium on "Burns" presented by the Department of Surgery of the University of California School of Medicine in San Francisco. An outstanding panel of authorities in both basic science as well as clinical practice have lucidly presented cogent, current concepts in the care of the burned patient, some widely accepted and others debatable and controversial.

In four sections the text covers the systemic effects of burns, local effects and local therapy, specific problems related to burns and their complications, and rehabilitation, healing, and skin grafting. The authors present a sound

program for treating burn shock, fluid and electrolyte disturbances, and the burn wound. Antibiotic therapy, immersion treatment, and early debridement and grafting are discussed by the panel members who often have differing views on such controversial subjects. The research approaches to burn therapy and tissue repair are reviewed in some detail.

This symposium should be of great interest to the physician who has a basic knowledge of burn management. It has been ten years since a major symposium on the subject of burns has been carried out. In view of the many advances in the problems of burns which have developed in the past decade, it is timely that authorities in this field have gathered to bring the practicing physician up-to-date in burn care. The proceedings are loosely edited which preserves the informal aspects of the symposium.

ERIC W. FONKALSrud, M.D.

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BODY FLUIDS AND THE ACID-BASE BALANCE—A Learning Program for Students of the Biological and Medical Sciences—Halvor N. Christensen, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Chemistry and Chairman of the Department, The University of Michigan. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London, 1964. 506 pages, \$6.50 (Paperbound).

Students of medicine, both graduate and post-graduate have long found the understanding of acid-base physiology a formidable task. In recent years the semantics and theory of modern chemistry has been applied to clinic problems. This is a great advantage to the younger students but makes recent texts and articles unintelligible to those whose basic fund of information on the topic was obtained in an earlier era.

Dr. Christensen has written a text with a programmed format to supplement the formal texts on acid-base physiology. The advantage of this format is that it demands careful and complete organization of the concepts being taught by both the author and student. Using the knowledge obtained by conventional methods the student by following the text will find that the various facts fall nicely into place.

There are five major sections covering the following concepts: pH and dissociation of weak acids; sodium, chloride and water metabolism; potassium and the intracellular compartment; calcium and phosphorus metabolism; and gas transport. The book is recommended to student and practitioner alike.